

LOG OF MEETING
U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER NANCY A. NORD

9/30/05
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SUBJECT: All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)

DATE OF MEETING: July 21, 2005

PLACE: Room 714 CPSC Headquarters

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Quin Dodd, Legal Counsel to Commissioner Nord

DATE OF ENTRY: July 21, 2005

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Commissioner Nancy A. Nord
Nicholas Marchica
Quin Dodd
Barbara Parisi
Elizabeth Leland
Gib Mullan
Suad Nakamura
Hope Johnson
Howard Tarnoff
Patty Politzer
Roy Deppa
Scott Wolfson
Rob Raffety
Nancy Sacks

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Doug Wilson (Kawasaki Motors Corp.)
Mike Wiegard (Eckert Seamens)
Fernando Garcia (Bombardier)
Kristen Klingerman (American Academy of Pediatrics)
Rachel Weintraub (Consumer Federation of America)
Sean Oberle (Product Safety Letter)

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Mssrs. Wilson and Weigard, representing Kawasaki, generally described the company, its organization, and its line of ATVs, including the engine size of its models. They noted in particular the 80 cc and 50 cc models it markets specifically to children. They also explained in detail the programs Kawasaki maintains to ensure dealer compliance with

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the company's requirements regarding non-sales of adult ATV's to those under 16, incentives it offers consumers to take safety training, the display of warning labels, and other measures to encourage safety and to comply with existing, voluntary standards. Mr. Weigard indicated that dealers typically do encourage purchasers of ATVs to also buy helmets and other safety equipment, but questioned the practicality of offering "free" helmets or other equipment with the purchase of an ATV. Mssrs. Wilson and Weigard also described the activities of the Specialty Vehicles Industry Association (SVIA) with regard to the promotion of ATV safety and of efforts to enact new state laws promoting ATV safety and restricting youth ridership.

When asked by Commissioner Nord, Mssrs. Weigard and Wilson indicated they would likely be receptive to new, mandatory safety standards with regard to ATVs and described the growth of imports of ATVs from primarily Chinese companies that may not comply with existing, voluntary standards. In particular, Mr. Weigard indicated that mandatory standards should be instituted for "transitional" ATV's, mid-sized ATV's for children in the 12 to 16 age range. They also expressed receptivity to mandatory standards regarding consumer ATV training and other aspects relating to the sale and purchase of ATVs. Mr. Weigard also mentioned that the existing, voluntary safety standards are scheduled for review in 2006.